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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/063,227    04/20/98    CASAS-BEJAR    J    P-7109

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QM12/1112

EXAMINER

THISSELL, J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3762

*9*

DATE MAILED:

11/12/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or  
proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**09/063,227**

Applicant(s)

**Casas-Bejar et al.**

Examiner

**Jeremy Thissell**

Group Art Unit  
**3762**



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 21, 1999

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 13-25, 27, 29, 33, and 34 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 13-25, 27, 29, 33, and 34 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4, 8, 9

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

Art Unit: 3762

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restriction***

1. Applicant's election of Group/Invention II, claims 13-25, 27, 29, 33, and 34 in Paper No. 7 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).
2. As per applicant's request, claims 1-12, 26, 28, 30-32, and 35 have been cancelled.

### ***Drawings***

3. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

### ***Specification***

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The list of references in the specification on pages 3-5 is not a proper IDS. Any references that were not disclosed on a properly filed IDS were not considered, in particular the non-patent literature for which no copies were supplied. Any references disclosed by applicant on form PTO-

Art Unit: 3762

1449 or cited by the examiner on form PTO-892 will of course be printed on the face of the patent when it issues, thus there is no need for the listing to appear in the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 13-22, 24, 25, 27, 29, 33, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chait '555 in view of Fearnot et al '629.

Chait teaches a catheter having an external fitting coupled to the proximal end, and helical coils as claimed. Chait lacks the porous layer with anti-inflammatory agent in it.

Fearnot teaches a catheter (col. 6, line 25) having a polyimide porous layer 20 (col. 9, line 46) with dexamethasone (col. 8, line 66) in it. Fearnot also teaches that the catheter can have heparin embedded in it (col. 8, line 49). Although Fearnot does not teach that the catheter outer layer is made of silicone, Fearnot does teach that part of the catheter can be made of silicone (co. 7, line 9). Since silicone is a material well known to be used in forming catheters, it would have been obvious to form

Art Unit: 3762

the outer porous layer of silicone, especially since Fearnot already teaches that part of the catheter can be made from it.

Fearnot teaches that the device has a layer with the anti-inflammatory steroid in it, and an outer layer 20 with porous structure to control the delivery rate of the drug. Since the drug will at some point be in the porous layer, it is inherent that claims 20-22 are anticipated.

Since Fearnot teaches that the anti-inflammatory agent is carried in a non-porous layer 18, claim 25 is anticipated.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the catheter of Chait with the layered structure of Fearnot, since formation of catheters with layers and with drug-saturated layers is well known in the art of catheters.

The methods claimed in claims 27 and 29 claim only the step of inserting the catheter, which is clearly taught by Chait. The structure claimed in claims 27 and 29 is anticipated by the combination of Chait and Fearnot as discussed supra.

The methods claimed in claims 33 and 34 claim simply that the catheter with the structure as claimed is assembled. The claims do not claim any specifics about the assembly. Clearly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the components of Chait must be put together in order to have the structure shown.

7. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chait in view of Fearnot et al as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Hendriks et al '151.

Art Unit: 3762

Chait as modified by Fearnot teaches all the claimed subject matter of claim 23 except for the anti-inflammatory agent being covalently bonded to the polymer surface. Hendriks teaches a catheter (col. 4, line 8), having an anti-inflammatory agent (col. 4, lines 23-24), wherein the agent is covalently bonded to the surface of the catheter (col. 4, line line 33-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the covalent bonding as taught by Hendriks to embed the anti-inflammatory agent of Chait as modified by Fearnot into layer 18 of Fearnot.

### *References*

The references made of record and not relied upon are structurally similar to applicant's invention, however, do not read on applicant's claims.

The examiner has cited references by Graves and Cahalan (5,925,069 and 5,607,475 respectively) which teach covalent bonding of bioagents to medical devices. See col. 3, line 45 in Graves, and the abstract of Cahalan.

The examiner also wishes to point out that the IDS filed on 1 October, 1998 indicates that there are 6 pages but only 3 are included. Applicant is requested to confirm whether or not there should only be 3 pages. There are no copies of the non-patent literature either. For these references to be considered, copies must be supplied.

Art Unit: 3762

*Contacts*

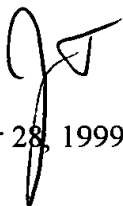
Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Jeremy Thissell at (703) 305-5261, or to Primary Patent Examiner Ronald Stright (703) 308-2113.

Jeremy Thissell

Patent Examiner

JT

October 28, 1999

  
RONALD STRIGHT  
PRIMARY EXAMINER